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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 2023 I

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Feb 13 2000

Paper No. 5

Technology Center 2100

Edward J. Kelly Foley, Hoag & Eliot LLP One Post Office Square Boston, MA 02109

In re Application of

Oran

Application No. 09/441,191

Filed: Nov. 15, 1999

For:

Method and Apparatus for

Facilitating and Tracking Personal

Referrals

DECISION ON PETITION TO

MAKE SPECIAL

This is a decision on the petition under 37 C.F.R. § 1.102, filed Dec. 27, 2000, Paper No. 3, to make the above-identified application special because of actual infringement.

M.P.E.P. § 708.02, section II, requires that a petition granted on this ground be accompanied by a statement by applicants, assignee, or an attorney/agent registered to practice before the Office alleging:

- 1. That there is an infringing device or product actually on the market or method in use;
- 2. That a rigid comparison of the alleged infringing device, product, or method with the claims of the application has been made, and that, in his or her opinion, some of the claims are unquestionably infringed; and
- 3. That he or she has made or caused to be made a careful and thorough search of the prior art or has a good knowledge of the pertinent prior art.

Applicant provides the above statements in the petition.

Applicant must also provide one copy of each of the references deemed most closely related to the subject matter encompassed by the claims. M.P.E.P. § 708.02, section II. Applicant meets this requirement by filing with the petition an Information Disclosure Statement. Paper No. 4.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

The application is being forwarded to the Examiner for expedited prosecution.

Joseph L. Felber

Special Program Examiner

Technology Center 2100

Joseph L. Felber

Computer Architecture, Software, and Electronic Commerce

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